

PRICE, TAELS 15 & ANNUM.

HOUSES & LAND.

1840
Shanghai, 17th September, 1861.

NOTIFICATION.

BRITISH CONSULATE, SHANGHAI, 4th January, 1862.

THE UNDERSIGNED is authorised by His Excellency the NAVAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF to publish for the information of British subjects the following Regulations, which are for the future to be observed by British vessels navigating such parts of the YANG-TSE RIVER as are occupied by the Taepings, instead of those notified by Mr. CONSUL MEADOWS on the 18th March last, under the title of "Extracts of a communication made by Commander Aplin to the Taeping Authorities at Nanking." Such portions of the Communication in question as are not affected by the New Regulations remain still in force.

WALTER H. MEDHURST,
H. M. Consul.

REGULATIONS TO BE OBSERVED BY BRITISH VESSELS NAVIGATING THOSE PARTS OF THE YANG-TSE-KIANG RIVER HELD BY THE TAEPIINGS.

1st.—The passes hitherto granted by the Senior Naval Officer at Nanking are abolished.
2nd.—The Senior Naval Officer at Shanghai will, on application, assign to every British Vessel of European build, navigating the Yang-tze-kiang, a number which is to be shown whenever she is in sight of British Vessel of War, on a Flag of the following description:—

Ground,.....Blue.
Figure,.....White.
Height,.....6 ft. 3 in.
Length,.....7 ft. 6 in.
Width,.....4 ft. 0 in.
Breadth,.....8 in.

3rd.—On the first occasion on which the Vessel passes up the River, after receiving her number, she will show the Certificate granting it to the several Vessels of War stationed in the River, after which she may pass up and down without communicating.

4th.—All Junks or other Vessels of native build, entitled by Consular Certificate to carry the British Flag, will, on application, be assigned a number to be endorsed on the back of their Certificate, by the Senior Naval Officer at the Port, or, in his absence, by the Consul. This number is to be painted on both quarters in white figures 48 inches long and 8 inches broad.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. C. S. COMPTON in the business of the North China Herald Printing Office ceased on the 31st December, 1861.

Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
I have this day established myself as GENERAL AGENT AND COMMISSION MERCHANT.
CHAS. GUTSCHOW.
Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
THE business heretofore conducted by the Underagent at this Port, will henceforward be continued under the Style or Firm of CRAYEN WILSON & Co.
MR. FRANK HEDDEN WILSON is authorised by me to sign the Firm.
CRAYEN WILSON.
Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
THE business of SHIP BROKER & GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT heretofore carried on by me in my own name, will from this date be continued under the Style or Firm of A. R. TILBY & Co.
MR. ROBERT E. LOVE is authorised to sign the Firm per procuration.
A. R. TILBY.
Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
MR. J. TRULSEN has this day been admitted a partner in my business, which will in future be carried on under the Firm of J. BOHSTEDT & Co.
J. BOHSTEDT.
Ningpo, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
MR. WILLIAM HENRY CARTER is authorised to sign my name per procuration.
J. F. CARTER.
Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
MR. C. KHAKKEBHOY being about to leave this place, heretofore the name of my Firm will be signed by MR. JOHN MAHOMED CASSUMBOH per procuration.
EDRAHIM SOOMAR.
Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
FROM and after the 1st January, 1862, our Business will be carried on under the Style or Firm of ROTHWELL, LOVE & Co. All claims against us will be paid by the new Firm. The Partners will remain as before, Mr. THOMAS ROTHWELL and Mr. JOSEPH LOVE, Junr.
ULLETT & Co.
Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

NOTICE.
ON and after this date, the business of the Undersigned will be carried on under the Style of E. C. KIRBY & Co.
E. C. KIRBY.
Ningpo, 4th January, 1862.

NOTICE.
SHANGHAI DRY DOCK COMPANY.
H. HAWKINS, Superintendent.
THE Shanghai Dry Dock at Hong-Kow, repairs every Ship of 14 feet draft and 200 feet length or less, at the lowest charges of the Port. The Shipwright work upon any vessel entering this Dock is open to general competition. The Dock Company is not responsible for any debt incurred in the name of the Dock, unless the contract is signed by both the Superintendent and the Chairman of the Company.

Shanghai, 1st January, 1862.

WANTED.
AN EUROPEAN WOMAN, to take charge of one child.
Apply or address "Nurse" at the Herald Office, Shanghai, 3rd January, 1862.

THE
North-China Herald.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1862.

NOTICE.—The Hours of DIVINE SERVICE in Trinity Church, are on Sundays, at 11 A.M. and 3.30 P.M., also on Wednesday at 4 P.M.

NOTICE.—DIVINE SERVICE will be held at the House of the late Rev. Dr. BRIDGMAN every Sunday morning at half-past 9 o'clock, instead of at the LONDON MISSION CHAPEL, until further notice.

NOTICE.—SEAMEN'S CHURCH: Services in the morning at 11 o'clock, and in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

NOTICE.—DIVINE SERVICE is held in the Chapel of the American Episcopal Mission at Hong Kow, every Sunday evening at 7 o'clock.

NOTICE.—DIVINE SERVICE is held in the Roman Catholic Chapel, near the French Consulate, every Sunday at 8 and 10 o'clock in the morning and 6 o'clock in the evening.

LATEST DATES.

England,.....Oct. 26
Hongkong,.....Dec. 15
Yokohama,.....Dec. 20
Tientsin,.....19
Kangasawa,.....Dec. 9

Latest dates in England, from China, —
Hongkong, Aug. 28 Received at Harbours, Shanghai, 17
Oct. 17.

COMPARISON OF OBSERVATIONS taken by A SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETER in the open air, in a shaded situation, at Shanghai, — the Maximum by day, and the Minimum at night.

For the week ending 3rd Jan. 1862.
Max. Min. Max. Min.
26th, 40 35 35 30 45 45
27th, 36 30 30 25 43 43
28th, 36 30 30 25 43 43
29th, 40 35 35 30 45 45
30th, 37 32 32 27 42 42
31st, 37 32 32 27 42 42
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2nd, 37 32 32 27 42 42
3rd, 37 32 32 27 42 42
To be continued weekly.

QUOTATIONS.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA.

RATINGS OF EXCHANGE.

Bills on London Joint Stock Bank, London, —
at 90 days sight, 100 to 100, per Tls.
at 3 months sight, 100 to 100, per Tls.
at 6 months sight, 100 to 100, per Tls.
at 9 months sight, 100 to 100, per Tls.
at 12 months sight, 100 to 100, per Tls.

Bills on Hong Kong, —
at 3 days sight, 100 to 100, per Tls.
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Numbers granted at the following Ports are to have the initial letter prefixed:—

Hankow.....H
Klu-kiang.....K
Chin-kiang-foo.....C

5th.—Every British Junk or Vessel of native build, on passing Nanking, to show her River Pass on board the Senior Officer's ship where her doing so will be duly registered, and every such vessel wearing the British ensign, if not entitled to do so, will be immediately deprived of it, and will incur the legal penalties of her default.

6th.—Attention is called to the following instructions which are to be strictly observed by all British Subjects navigating the Yang-tze-kiang:—

I.—The Taeping Authorities have been acquainted, that having adopted effectual measures to prevent the use of the British flag by vessels not entitled to wear it, I will not permit British vessels of whatever build, whether European or Native, to be interfered with or molested in the exercise of their right of navigating the Yang-tze-kiang, under any pretext or in any way whatever.

II.—Intercourse with the shore or trading is only permitted under such regulations as their Authorities shall think proper to prescribe (subject to my approval); and wherever a British vessel of war is stationed, no communication is to be held with the shore, except with the sanction of her Commander.

III.—The English Red Ensign is always to be hoisted, and it must be not less than 4 breadths of 18 inches each.

IV.—Guns or arms are not to be used except in self defence, for which the master will be held personally responsible; and the armed encampments of the Taepings are not to be visited by any person.

V.—When the shore is visited by either officers or crew, such conduct is to be observed as will avoid giving offence to the inhabitants.

VI.—When approaching Nanking at night, vessels are not to come nearer than the Ping-shan Pagoda.

VII.—No vessel is to pass through the Tsou-hea Creek.

Note.—If the Taeping Authorities permit other foreign vessels to use the Creek, the right of British vessels to do so will be insisted on.

VIII.—In the event of any vessel being molested or interfered with in any way, she is to give immediate notice of the same to the nearest Vessel of War.

J. HOPE,
Vice Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

EXPECTED.—To leave Southampton, —

October 27.

For Hongkong.—Mr. Linsley and Mr. J. Kynner.

For Shanghai.—Messrs. Visher, Lenny, Beadel, and Berier.

November 4.

For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Smith, Messrs. A. Colen, L. Moore, P. F. Bird, C. J. Constan, Reema, and Hogg.

For Shanghai.—Mr. E. Seaton and Saton.

November 12.

For Hongkong.—Mr. Fritz Abegg and Mrs. Williams.

November 20.

For Hongkong.—Mrs. W. H. Pittcock.

For Shanghai.—Mr. G. Booth.

December 4.

For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hazelland, Miss Cruickshank, Mrs. Calen and 2 infants, Mrs. Kane, Messrs. Mackintosh, Magniac, F. Adams, and D. Saures.

December 20.

For Hongkong.—Messrs. F. Stewart and R. H. Payne.

For Shanghai.—Madame Corlier and child, Mrs. E. W. Graham, Messrs. E. Fierz, Gibbon, and C. Lehmann.

SHIPING REPORT.

Per H.M. Gun-boat BOUNCER, — January 2nd, reports that 10 miles below Houcouer Channel passed the steamer Shanghai going up. 3rd, 5 miles above Starling Island, passed the City of Nanking going up. At the Lung-chang-Crooking the schooner Shanghai sailing up. A steamer on shore off Hsueh Island; the steamer is schooner-rigged and painted white, with American colours, and has a junk with her, also with American colours; supposed it to be the Santa Cruz.

Such of the original applicants for Land within the British Concession at Kiating as are prepared to become bona fide settlers, on the distribution of the Land at that Port taking place, are requested to communicate their intention to the Undersigned by earliest convenience.

CONSULAR NOTIFICATION.

British Consulate, Kiating, 27th December, 1861.

10ja

The London Mail of 11th Nov., due in Hongkong on the 26th ultimo, and here on the 2nd inst. It was received last year on the 2nd January per Ly-ee-moon.

RETROSPECT OF EVENTS IN CHINA DURING THE YEAR 1861.

ANOTHER year has closed upon the political history of this vast empire. A year, so far as regards the relations of the Imperial Government with foreign countries, which has been productive of the most momentous events in its annals; inasmuch as the exclusive policy adopted by successive dynasties, from time immemorial, in their intercourse with foreigners, has been fairly broken down by the prowess and diplomacy of the Allied powers of Great Britain and France, and the recognition of European civilization acknowledged by the highest authorities in these realms.

It is true that the progress towards this consummation has been slow and vacillating, but the greater and surer we may consider its effectual accomplishment. It is true also that, as yet, the breach in this hitherto impenetrable fortress of social and political exclusion is small. Nevertheless, it has been sufficient for us to enter and raise the standards of the West in the heart of these far Eastern dominions—where, after the necessary booming of our invading guns were hushed, we have entered as peaceful conquerors into the country and in friendly commercial intercourse with its multitudinous people.

POLITICAL.

Such being the general "argument" before the prospect of this theatre of

events, we now lift up the curtain and observe the Imperial pageants that have crossed the stage of the political drama in China. In watching the progress of the various actors in the scenes from the commencement of the year to its close, we observe a continual change of characters on the stage. Their "entrances and exits" are sudden and mysterious, while only one remains now in power to assist in wielding the destinies of the Manchou dynasty, over the many hundred millions of the Sons of Han under their rule.

As the panoramic scene opens before us, we see the *tableau vivant*, of a *deposed* Emperor in the prime of life—a refugee from his capital—enclosed within the fastnesses of his Tartar palace at Zehol, lying prostrate on a bed of sickness; while the cold air of that upper region is stealing away the vital energies of his wasted frame, which he in vain tries to restore. In vain does he strive to obtain rest, and that peace of mind which only a well-spent life can secure. For months has he suffered mental and bodily affliction; and now, stretched on his gorgeous couch, he exclaims somewhat in the language of a great poet—

"No emotion. Oh! must this last for ever! A woful death, I wish yet fear to clasp thee!—Not one moment Of dreamless sleep! O dear and blessed peace! Why dost thou shroud thy beauty purify In penury and dungeons! wherefore lurkest With danger, death, and solitude; yet shun'st The palace I have built thee? Sacred peace! Oh visit me but once, and pitying shed One drop of balm upon my withered soul."

Such a blessing was not to fall upon the troubled spirit of HIEN FUKO—who, through them that obeyed his behests, tortured to death those confiding brave Englishmen that were murdered in the dungeons of Peking. This pusillanimous son of royalty succumbed to the dread King of Terrors, and there the scene closed on a misspent life.

Next arises the favorite son, clad in the Imperial ermine, and surrounded by a concourse of grave councillors, who proclaimed him to be the "Fortunatus" of Cathay—the youthful precursor of peace and plenty to a sorely troubled nation. Futile are these surmises, and hollow are the schemes of these princely advisers of the Boy-Emperor. As they group around the throne, apparently steadfast and honest in their support, for the weal of their king and country, they are at heart a band of base plotters, bent upon usurping the powers conferred to their charge by the deceased monarch. They concoct schemes for their own aggrandizement, to the exclusion from power of the late Emperor's brother, who, in concert with the Empress, is the representative of law and order at home, and friendly relations with the foreigner abroad.

The scene changes, and we behold a mournful cortege in its progress from the Manchou mountains to the ancient capital of the empire, when suddenly those proud and deceitful dictators are seized while attending the remains of their deceased master to his tomb. They are bound, imprisoned, degraded, and despoiled of wealth and power; while

U.S. Sec Supplement.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

KEPPELL & Co.,
NAGASAKI.

Shipwrights, Blacksmiths, Ship-
Chandlers, &c. &c.
Vessels of all sizes have been caulked,
equipped, &c., &c., at reasonable rates.
Spars made at the shortest notice, and all
work guaranteed.

O. H. BAKER & Co.,
Dealers in Ship and Family Supplies
and Commission Merchants.
YOKUHAMA,
JAPAN.HALL & HOLTZ,
SHIP CHANDLERS, STORKKEEPERS
AND BAKERS,
BREAD AND BISCUITS.
SHANGHAI.MCKENZIE & CO.,
Ship Chandlers, Store-keepers, and
Provisioners, &c. &c.,
YANG-KING FANG,
SHANGHAI.Cheung-fong 祥豐
MRS. CLIFTON,
SUCCESSOR TO
MRS. MARSH,
Millinery and Drapery Establishment,
CONSULATE SQUARE,
Corner of Church Street,
Shanghai, 17th May, 1861.KIN-TEE-YUN,
CAN SUPPLY PARTIES WITH SILKS OF
EVERY DESCRIPTION;
GAUZE OF NEWEST PATTERNS;
SHAWLS, &c. &c.,
AND EMBROIDERED WORK OF THE
LAST FASHIONS,
AT UNUSUALLY LOW PRICES.
TSING-KEE SHIP,
Near the French Consulate,
Shanghai, 1st September, 1856.H. EVANS & CO.,
Ship Bread Bakers and General
Importers.
4my SHANGHAI.Chun-hau. 成號瑞記
SARKER,
YANG-KING FANG.

HAS always for Sale at moderate prices
Silks, Satins, Embroideries, Pongees, and
Gauzes; Lacquered, Japan, and Canton Ware;
Mitar's Iron Saws, and a variety of European
goods.
20ap Shanghai, 10th April, 1861

THE SHANGHAI HOSPITAL
AND DISPENSARY
HAS been enlarged, and can accommodate
PRIVATE PATIENTS with comfort.

The terms are,
For Private Room, ... 2.00 a day.
" Officers do, ... 1.00
" General Ward, ... 1.00
" Washing One Towel per month extra.
The Lowest charge is Seven Taels.

F. C. SIBBALD, M.D., Surgeon.
THE DISPENSARY is well stocked with
Medicine, which may be had on application to
the Apothecary. Medicine China &c.ALGAR & STREET,
Colonial Newspaper & Commission Agents.
THE COLONIAL PRESS

NEWSPAPERS, BOOKS, TYPE, INK,
PRESSES, CORRESPONDENT'S
LETTERS,
AND ANY EUROPEAN GOODS,
ON LONDON TERMS.

COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS received at this
Office are regularly filed for the inspection
of Advertisers and the Public.
11, Clement's Lane, London.

BLEY'S AMMUNITION
COMPRISING EVERY DESCRIPTION OF SPORTING
AND MILITARY AMMUNITION.

DOUBLE Waterproof Central Fire Percussion
Caps, originally invented by them, are
particularly adapted for use in India, where the
caps are often allowed to remain a long time
under the ashes of rifles and fowling-pieces, the
ignition being at all times safe and certain, whilst
in humid weather the discharge is as instantaneous
as with ordinary caps on the freest day. For testi-
monials to their value for shooting in India,
see Col. Jacob's work on "Rifles & Projectiles."

PARAFFIN WAX CUPRETTES
For killing game at long distances; also the Green
Cartridges, made with the largest drop shot and
moult shot, will be found very effective at large
game, where the sportsman has not a rifle in the
field.

Also, chemically prepared Cloth and Felt Gun-
Wadding, to prevent the leading of guns. Car-
tridges Cases for each leading kind of gun, and
Ball Cartridges for Prince's and other breech-
loading Rifles, Muskets, Pistols, &c.

SOLE CONTRACTORS to the War Department,
For Waterproof Military Caps, Cartridges and
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SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date	Vessels	Flag & No.	From	Captain	From	Sailed	Commo.	CONSIGNEES.
Dec 27	Stade	Han 174	Belger	Fuchau	Hankow	Dec 11	General	Stenson and Co
28	Yan-tao	Han 175	Belger	Fuchau	Hankow	12	General	Stenson and Co
29	Constance	Han 176	Belger	Ningpo	Ningpo	13	do	Shaw, Brothers and Co
30	Frederic	A. ship 230	Whaler	Nagasaki		14	do	Fraser and Co
31	Chinese steamer					15	do	
1	Shantung	A. ship 301	Whaler	Hankow		23	do	Augustine Heard and Co
2	Shantung	H. str. 86	Grange	Tan-tze		24	do	Fraser and Co
3	Wan-tung	H. str. 87	Grange	Tan-tze		25	do	Wan, Buxta and Co
4	Mellia	H. str. 101	Grange	Tan-tze		26	do	Fraser and Co
5	Yan-tze	H. str. 129	Shang	Hankow		27	do	Thibb, Livingston and Co
6	Yan-tze	H. ship 61	Pinland	Yang-tze		28	do	Fraser and Co
7	Herwick Wells	H. ship 62	Pinland	Yang-tze		29	do	Fraser and Co
8	Oron	H. ship 103	Norden	W. & Co.		30	do	I. Jagg and Co
9	Shi Yang	Haw 21	Husselt			31	do	
10	Pan Shun	Chi-str.		McKenzie		1	do	
11	Zingara	H. ship 1	Oliver			2	do	
12	Thuck	B. ship 143	Oliver	Cherof		Dec 23	General	Rothwell, Love and Co
13	Chuan	A. str. 429	Carbutt	Ningpo		24	do	Wan, Buxta and Co
14	Charlotte	B. ship 136	Carbutt	Frederick		25	do	Russell and Co
15	Pier Dart	A. str. 420	West	Hankow		26	do	Augustine Heard and Co
16	Wanderer	A. ship 172	Blanchard	Frederick		27	do	Fraser and Co
17	Emma	A. ship 230	Whaler	Nagasaki		28	do	Wan, Buxta and Co
18	Salamander	Prush 291	Seerentin	Ningpo		29	do	Wan, Buxta and Co
19	Leontino	H. sh. 101	Gode	N'etale n.w.		31	Consol	Howard and Co
20	Chin-chin	H. ship 102	Harley	N'etale n.w.		1	do	Howard and Co
21	Chin-chin	H. lug. 76	Swanda	do		20	Consol	Fraser and Co

ton of unequal and forced taxation is a boon to the people. Notwithstanding all that has been alleged against the Customs under foreign superintendence there is no doubt but that its financial success, has been one of the chief elements in bringing about the present friendly relations between the Government and foreign powers. Hitherto the "squeezes"—as they are locally termed—of the mandarin collectors, reduced the customs revenue to a low minimum. Now, the Imperial Government sees the previously despised barbarian dealing honourably and justly with this important branch of the national revenue. By receiving every tale collected at the different ports, they can appreciate a system which fills their coffers more rapidly than under the old fiscalizing plan. They see also their former suicidal policy of levying duties upon merchandise imported by foreigners, to furnish them with the sinews of war so that they might drive away the very strangers who replenished their exhausted funds. Wiser financial counsels have prevailed and this anomalous feature in the revenue and expenditure of a great and wealthy nation, is replaced by the correct policy of applying these revenues for the legitimate purpose of suppressing the dire rebellion which is raging around their seats of government which furnish the means of paying the Imperial troops.

To the most superficial mind it will be seen that in entering upon these relations with the Imperial administration, the foreign treaty powers must acknowledge them as the Government—*de jure* and *de facto*. There can be no misapprehension on this head. It is clear, as far as they are concerned, that by the ratification of the Treaty of Tientsin, they are bound to recognize the young Emperor as the Ruler, as the only legitimate Government in China. Therefore the subjects of these powers are legally obliged to respect the fixed laws and institutions of the country, and morally bound to discountenance any revolutionary party armed against the state. Hence all those who enter into political compact with the Taiping rebels are committing an infraction of the law of nations, and are liable to punishment; while those who indirectly give encouragement to the movement from religious or commercial motives, are offending against the laws of moral jurisprudence. We are of opinion that the philo-rebel element in China is becoming weaker every day amongst the foreign communities on its shores; and that before the close of the year, such will only be found among the ranks of lawless men of all nations, who have degraded themselves and their countries by leaguings with these children of evil.

FOREIGN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

The past year has proved one of trial and difficulty to importers, but still closes with gain, giving promise of a brighter future; a future, nevertheless, we regret to say, dependent upon the progress or otherwise of that system of organized brigandage denominated the Taiping insurrection, or rather upon the wisdom and energy of the measures to repress the same which may be adopted by the Imperial Government, and the attitude towards it to be assumed by Foreign Authorities.

Confining ourselves, for the moment, to commerce in this part of China and the Northern ports, the above-named promise of a brighter future consists entirely of the prospect offered by the development of trade upon the Yangtze, and of the—at present seasons—active and large demand existing at Tientsin for most descriptions of cotton manufactures. This latter feature is no novelty; but conducted in foreign bottoms, covered by marine insurance, it has become of far greater consequence than formerly, and has proved of the most material assistance to foreign merchants in the quittance of the past year's large importations of manufactured cottons. That 1862 will witness a complete reversion of these gratifying relations seems certain, unless indeed the rising star of Hankow attract within its sphere many dealers who have hitherto supplied themselves at Tientsin. The development of trade upon the Yangtze (both that which may be with exactitude styled foreign, and that simply consisting of the conveyance on the river in foreign bottoms of articles only suited to local trade) and the growing importance of Hankow and Kiangling form, however, the distinguishing commercial characteristics of 1862. On the 31st March last was published a lucid and valuable report, drawn up by the deputation appointed by the British Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai to report upon the ports and places on the Yangtze, visited by the Expedition under Admiral Sir James Hope, K.C.B., and immediately thereafter (indeed previously) steamers under American and British colours commenced to ply between Shanghai and Hankow. The results of their adventures were at first known only to the parties immediately interest-

ed, but it soon became seemingly apparent that a length of time, more or less uncertain; must elapse before there could be realized the sanguine anticipation of Hankow's importance which had been generally entertained. An early change, however, took place; tens arrived at Hankow, and a weekly market was found for many descriptions of Japanese and Straits produce. This, together with the conveyance from Hankow of native products for consumption at Shanghai and Ningpo, furnished ample employment at high rates for steamers and other craft in any way adapted to river traffic. The recent capture of Ningpo by the Taipings has closed one important branch of this trade, and has led to a reduction in these excessive rates of river freight; but, for the rest, it seems certain that unless our steam fleet be much increased during the coming spring and summer, tonnage on the Yangtze will again command extreme prices. Black Teas will, in all probability, be brought to Hankow next season, in much larger quantity than before, to the partial exclusion, indeed, of Canton, now less able than formerly to contend against the disadvantage of distance from the producing provinces. Manufactures, also, promise to figure more largely among the exports of the port, and we have hitherto done. This important branch of trade has not yet, by any means, attained that magnitude which the position of Hankow entitles us to look forward to. For cottons and woollens no demand has existed commensurate with the extent of the importations of these articles into Shanghai; but it is now to be hoped, and with much reason, that brighter days will dawn upon us. Kiangling has not disappointed the expectations formed of it in March last by the commercial deputation. Considerable quantities of green and, in a less degree, black tea have been shipped thence; and, under present circumstances, it is fast becoming the chief seat in China of business in the first-named description.

At Hankow, the price of land—to foreigners at all events—has risen greatly during the past six months, and all advantageous business sites are now held for immense sums; this is, however, in a measure due to local circumstances. The price to be paid for the British Concession remains matter of uncertainty, and will be seriously augmented by the heavy outlay required to fit the spot for the purposes of business.

Sales of imports at Shanghai being now reduced to but an absolute shadow of their former consequence, the port, in so far as business in manufactures and teas is concerned, is fast becoming no more than a place of head quarters, where merchandise can be safely stored and operations at other ports controlled—a character not likely to change so long as the Taipings retain possession of Soochow and the surrounding districts. The silk trade (of which we need not say, Shanghai is and will remain the seat) has presented this season several interesting and anomalous features. Except in so far as its quality has been concerned, the disturbed state of the producing districts has not affected the supply to nearly so great an extent as might reasonably have been feared; notwithstanding also the adverse course of the consuming markets in Europe, silk has been shipped thither to an extent and at prices promising in most instances no result save a serious loss to those interested, whilst the Chinese have, for many months past held, with even unwonted tenacity, such stocks of the article as in former times we should not have believed that they could have found the means to get together. The first of these circumstances is due to the energetic steps taken by both natives and foreigners to keep open the communications between Shanghai and the producing districts; the second may in large measure be attributed to the threatened tightness of money in Europe, which doubtless rendered many merchants anxious to speedily secure returns for their heavy importations of manufactures—an end to be attained solely by a system of barter, which they put very freely into operation; the third can only be accounted for by the unusual and excessive abundance of money which has lately existed amongst the Chinese at Shanghai—an abundance consequent upon the contraction of native trade, arising from the unhappy condition of this and the neighbouring provinces, and upon the attraction of capital to Shanghai on account of the safety there afforded by the foreigner, from the dreaded Taipings.

To this glut of money and to this peculiar political position of the foreign settlements at Shanghai, must likewise be attributed the recent rapid and extensive rise in the value of land within their limits—an advance, of which it is scarcely a fable to say, that holders of ground who retired to rest in moderate circumstances, awaked to find themselves, by its means, wealthy men.

Ningpo, which was threatened by the Taipings during the greater portion of the past year, fell into their hands in the

month of December. This untoward event not only closes one outlet for manufactured goods, but, as already explained, impedes in some degree the development of trade upon the Yangtze. The fact, likewise, that a port at which by treaty we are privileged to trade, should be held by Rebels, opens several grave questions of international policy, the discussion of which we cannot raise within the limits of this article. That the Taipings should be in possession of a seaport at all, is matter for bitter regret; but when it is remembered that they can thereby be easily supplied with munitions of war by a class of traders whom we cannot too strongly stigmatize and denounce, it will be at once admitted that in their capture of Ningpo all hope of a speedy revival of trade in the vicinity of Shanghai has experienced a severe blow.

Of Foochow and the more Southern Ports we shall leave our Hongkong contemporaries to speak, expressing our hopes that these places may continue to be spared that scourge of Rebellion, which has now, for high two years, pressed so heavily upon Shanghai.

(From the Daily Shipping & Commercial News of January 4, 1862.)

PUBLIC MEETING OF LAND RENTERS.

Minutes of a Public Meeting of Land Renters held at the British Consulate on the 3rd of January, 1862, to consider a proposition by Mr. E. M. Smith for the better protection, illumination, and drainage of the Settlement.

Present—Messrs. J. Dow, C. Treasurer Jones, E. F. Duncanson, Robt. Reid, P. Loureiro, Albert Haard, A. Michie, Jas. Hogg, B. Dallas, C. Thorne, Thos. Rothwell, Thos. Hinchbury, A. Cusby, Jas. Cook, W. W. Christie, S. J. Gower, Edwin Pickard, Ed. Webb, J. Whitall, C. D. Nye, B. Cunningham, C. Leaoz Richardson, Herbert Hancock, Ch. Spencer Compton, W. Thorburn, B. A. Wardell, A. Brand, H. Hubbard, E. M. Smith, R. Ashton, W. H. Medhurst, and others not *renters*.

Walter Medhurst, H. M. Consul, as Senior Consul present, took the Chair.

The letter of requisition for the convening of the Renters having been read, the Chairman called on Mr. E. M. Smith to state his proposition. Mr. E. M. SMITH then read as follows:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I was induced to meet you to address a letter to the Editor of the *Daily Shipping and Commercial News* with reference to the draining, lighting, and barricading the streets of the Settlement.

In that letter I set forth what could be done with the revenue derived from the present tax on land and buildings, if a slight change were made in the mode of assessment.

As a guarantee to the practicability of my views, I offered to commence at once with the works necessary to carry them out, provided the tax alluded to were placed at my disposal.

A desire to interest those members of the community, who give but a passing thought to matters of so much importance, urged me to place myself so prominently before the public.

I was not actuated by a wish to make money, although I was quite prepared to take the chance of the scheme turning out remunerative.

Since the publication of my letter I have been assured that, whilst there is but one opinion as to the desirability of the Settlement drained, its streets lighted with gas and barricaded, there is a most decided objection to any Municipal tax being diverted from the purposes for which it was levied.

With the conviction that this opinion is shared by the greatest number of Land Renters, I withdraw the proposition I made, and now offer my services as one of a committee of three, to receive from this Meeting authority to commence immediately with erecting block-houses, and to make arrangements for the effectual draining of the Settlement according to the most approved method.

The arrival of the last mail has placed in the hands of a gentleman estimates and details for the establishment of a company to supply the community with gas. He will doubtless submit to the present Meeting a proposition for carrying out so desirable an object.

I will endeavour, as briefly as I can, to lay before you a few suggestions for the better protection of the Settlement, and would preface them by stating that if you approve of the works being commenced with at once, I will devote all the time I can spare to their superintendence.

First—I would suggest the excavating in a direct line of a canal fifty feet wide to mark out that portion of the Foreign Concession now defined by an imaginary line, from somewhere at the back of the Grand Stand to the Soochow Creek; and that a bridge twenty feet wide, with gates to the westward and rooms above the

canal which would be intersected by an extension of the Ma-loo Road. The bridge would form a covered platform for the working of a field-piece; whilst the rooms overhead would provide comfortable quarters for a detachment of artillerymen or volunteers.

The cost of excavating this canal would be more than met by the sale of the mud thrown out; and, if I mistake not, the owners of the land which the proposed canal would traverse, would not only cheerfully surrender their ground, but would, as is customary, pay the cost of their own building.

I will not dwell upon the important post this bridge would make in a military point of view, but will ask you to glance at the map of the Settlement.

You will see that it would occupy as near as possible the centre of the western extremity of the Concession, and that field-piece could sweep not only northwards to the Soochow Creek, but southwards to the south-east corner of the Concession and eastwards along the most central and widest road in Shanghai.

This canal once made would soon lead to its extension southward, by widening the creek to where it commences to wind to the north, and ultimately to the bridge on the Barrier Road. The owners of those lots, to which it would afford water communication, would soon avail themselves of such an important means of increasing the value of their land.

A small gun-boat could be dispatched from the anchorage to this bridge with a field-piece and men to work it, instead of dragging it over roads which are rendered by heavy rains almost impassable.

Second—I propose that the bridge crossing the Yang-king-pang at Barrier Road should be built in the same manner as the other and provided with gates to the southward. This position for a field-piece would be almost as important as the one at the head of the Ma-loo Road; for it would command the most important thoroughfare we have and the creek east and west to some distance.

Third—I would recommend that block-houses, similar to the model before you, should be built on Shiao-loo Road and Hsiao Road, at those points intersected by streets running east and west.

The cost of these block-houses, built of solid Singapore beams a foot square, with gates to the westward made of two-inch Singapore planks laid across each other, and riveted together with iron-bolts and cased with hoop-iron, would cost about five hundred taels each.

These block-houses would divide the Concession into three equal sections. They would, whilst affording comfortable quarters for artillerymen, volunteers, or policemen, prove an insuperable barrier to the advance of an enemy (Chinese) from the westward; and, in case of a riot, keep the mob in check.

For the latter purpose I do not think they can be too highly prized; for I believe it pretty generally admitted that we have more to apprehend from those who are within the lines of our defences than from an outside foe.

It is a well-known fact that Shanghai has of late become a city of refuge, and I feel confident that those Chinese, who have fled for protection to our Settlement, will be anxious to pay for the same in the shape of high rentals, that any measures adopted for the defence of the place is almost entirely owing to them.

You will find the better class will subscribe freely towards the expense of the block-houses, and that it needs but the sanction of this Meeting, with the support and authorization of H. B. M. Consul, to make this Settlement impregnable to a Chinese foe, and that, too, without the cost of a penny to Foreign Renters of land.

I will not tire you with any further remarks, but will conclude by asking that a resolution be passed, empowering a Committee of three to act in the matter of works of defence and to consider the best mode of draining the Settlement.

Mr. WEBB said he had been somewhat taken by surprise with the proposition just laid before the Meeting, after what he had been led to expect from the notices published of its probable purpose. He thought however the proposition a practical and useful one, and he would only suggest the extension of the Numbers of the Committee, alluded to in it, from 3 to 6, and that they be required to report the result of their deliberations to a future meeting specially called for the purpose of considering it.

The CHAIRMAN suggested Mr. Webb's putting his opinion in the shape of a Resolution, and Mr. WEBB thereupon proposed—

"That a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Whitall, Cunningham, Jas. Hogg, E. M. Smith, and J. P. Tuto, be appointed to consider any propositions laid before them for the defence, draining, lighting, and improvement of the Settlement, which Committee will

report thereon, giving estimates of cost, &c., at a future special Meeting, to be held for that purpose at an early date."

Mr. CUNNINGHAM rose to propose an amendment, namely the addition of Mr. Webb's name to the Committee.

Mr. GOWER seconded the amendment. The resolution in its amended form, being put to the Meeting was carried *unanimously*.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that, as the time of the renters was always precious, and it was difficult to discuss a question, involving important results and various interests, in the short hour usually available for public meetings, unless the renters had an opportunity beforehand of considering the subject to be discussed, it would be advisable to require the Committee to place their report for some days previous to the next Meeting at some place of public resort, so that persons might look at it and prepare themselves for giving an opinion when called on so to do.

Mr. GOWER suggested thereupon, "That the report of the Committee shall be printed and circulated amongst the land renters for a week before the special meeting is held."

Mr. HANBURY moved to second the motion. Passed *unanimously*.

Mr. King asked to read a letter he had received from England, in reply to certain enquiries he had sent home as to the probable cost of lighting the Settlement with gas. The letter was read accordingly. Mr. King added that it was contemplated to establish a company to undertake the scheme with a view to making it remunerative as far as possible, and that it was estimated a capital of £30,000 would be required to set it on foot.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that Mr. King's letter was a *propos* to one of the objects for which the Meeting had been called, namely, lighting the Settlement; and he would recommend that the letter should be referred to the Committee, who were empowered to entertain all propositions relative to that and other plans for the improvement of the settlement.

Mr. TATE said he had two propositions from Messrs. Gribble and Glen, which he presumed had, like Mr. King's letter, better be referred to the Committee; so he would not trouble the Meeting with stating them.

Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and the Meeting closed.

W. H. MEDHURST, Chairman.

STANDING ORDER.

(Hydrographical No. 10.)

1. Commander Reilly, of H. M. S. Pioneer, reports that the line of coast on the east side of Japan, between the islands of Honshu and Kyushu, is laid down from 8 to 10 miles too far to the eastward. That Kiukuwa San appeared to be correctly placed. That a point not named between Tawo and Tawo lies in lat. 35° 40' N., and long. 140° 45' E., is 12 miles N.W. of its actual position, and that soundings are obtained in 17 and 19 fathoms (ends), at a distance from 14 to 20 miles.

About 3 miles off Cape Beika the depth of water was from 22 to 30 fathoms. From the result of star observations, Cape King was placed 4 or 5 miles too far north, and the land west of it trends nearly N.W.

The light on the island of Sekouta at the entrance of Yedo Bay is visible 20 miles, and appears at great distances a light red, but in closing hours but one. (File Chart—Nippon Isle No. 2347.)

H. M. Joseph Dathan, Master of H. M. S. Encounter, describes Swain's Reef as a ledge of considerable extent with patches of rocks just awash, and apparently steep. He places it in lat. 35° 42' N., and long. 138° 12' E., on a line of bearing S. 67° E. from Oure Island. (File Chart, Ripon Isle, No. 1347.)

11. Lieut. John C. Tucker, commanding H. M. S. Encounter, reports that he has been enabled to ascertain the position of a rock seen by the Master of the steam ship *Ganges*, gives the following bearings (true) of the outer extreme:—From Ripon Island S. 8° E., distance 3.35 W. " Bent Island South Point S. 42° E. " Sentry " N. E. Islet S. 73° E.

12. A reef running in a northerly direction towards Island. At high water with a heavy swell the sea breaks on it; at low water two small pinnacle rocks are visible. (File Chart, Hsiao Strait, No. 1005, China Coast.)

13. There is a rock said to be in existence about 24 or 3 miles due East of the Sea Cat; it has eight feet at its low water and is supposed to be the outer and highest portion of a reef extending from the Sea Cat to the north towards the Sea Cat. (File Chart, China Coast, Sheet, No. 176.)

14. Commander Ward of H. M. S. *Acton*, having obtained the great position of the Light Vessel in the Yangtze, considers her moored in a place much more likely to meet the wants of the Pilot than when on the North bank, and has therefore moved her to the present position.

At present she is about the centre of the channel, and vessels may safely pass on either side of her, as she is two miles from the three fathoms line of the North bank.

Signed J. HOPPE, Vice Admiral & Comd-in-Chief, The respective Captains, Commanders, and Lieutenants of H. M. S. Ships & Vessels in China.

HYDROGRAPHIC NOTICE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to request you will have the kindness to give publicity to the enclosed notice. Unhappily the neighborhood of the Light Vessel should be approached with extreme caution—much better avoided altogether. By your kindly passing this letter and notice on to your contemporaries in China and Japan, you will oblige,

Your Obediently, JOHN WARD.

H. M. S. *Acton*, KANAGAWA,

September 17th, 1861.